Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Wednesday 18 Dec 2024 until 23:59 on Thursday 19 Dec 2024

Forecast Issued on Wednesday 18 Dec 2024 at 01:36

Confidence: Medium for the detail of low tracking east through the south of the United Kingdom later Wednesday. High for a showery, colder northwesterly flow for Thursday, then lowering from Friday for the transitional detail as fronts then troughs cross from the east.

Headline for Wednesday 18 Dec 2024: Rain clearing to sunny spells, and summit gales easing, but further rain and snow in the evening.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 18 Dec 2024

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales Medium Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy Rain	Drizzle	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Dull	Light snow
Precipitation probability					
90%	70%	20%	10%	20%	60%

Forecast for Wednesday 18 Dec 2024

Weather: Overcast early morning with rain gradually easing. This clears as largely dry and occasionally bright conditions feed from the west around mid-morning. Cloud building from the south early afternoon with chance of rain erratically returning into the evening, this falling as snow above 700m, although northern Fells possibly staying dry.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10% becoming 70% from late morning, lowering 30-40% from early evening.

Low cloud and visibility: Good or very good becoming moderate or poor in rain, very poor in snow and within cloud with bases extensive from 500m at first, lifting and breaking from mid-morning, before lowering erratically from the south later in the day

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Forecast for Wednesday 18 Dec 2024

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	54/65 SW	46/59 W	39/50 W	27/35 W	21/27 W	18/23 NW	22/29 NW
600	41/54 SW	39/54 W	33/46 W	23/32 W	17/25 W	13/18 NW	16/23 NW
300	14/42 SW	18/45 W	16/38 W	11/27 W	8/20 W	6/16 NW	8/21 NW
Valley	16/42 SW	18/40 W	17/35 W	12/26 W	8/19 W	6/15 NW	8/19 NW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	7/-0	4/-4	3/-5	1/-6	0/-6	-1/-7	-2/-9
600	8/2	6/-1	5/-2	4/-2	3/-2	1/-3	1/-5
300	9/6	8/4	7/3	6/3	5/2	4/2	3/-0
Valley	10/7	10/7	10/6	8/5	8/6	6/5	6/3
Freezing Level*	2300m	1700m	1200m	1000m	900m	700m	700m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Gales across higher ground in the morning will give a risk of being blown over. Note, large uncertainty in northern extent of rain and snow in the evening.

Forecast for Thursday 19 Dec 2024

Weather: Opening with frequent showers, some heavy with the risk of hail and thunder in western areas of the park and a snow level 400-500m. Outbreaks easing through the morning to leave a largely dry afternoon with good spells of weak winter sunshine.

Maximum wind: Northwest 30-35mph with gusts reaching 50mph across more exposed ridges and summits

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 25% becoming 80% for the afternoon

Low cloud and visibility: Very good becoming moderate or poor in rain showers, very poor in snow showers and within cloud with bases quite extensive from 600m at first, lifting and breaking from mid-morning

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 1 Celsius increasing 6 Celsius for the afternoon
At 800m: Minus 1 Celsius
Freezing level: 600m

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Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Tuesday 17 December 2024. Location: Helvellyn summit at 11:00. Full report: The wet and windy weather continued across the National Park today although with some brighter spells. There is currently no snow or ice in the Lake District. Summit temperatures were just above freezing but the wind chill or feels like temperature was nearly minus seven degrees C. Full winter clothing including plenty of layers and a wind and waterproof shell plus hats and gloves are essential. Hypothermia is a very real risk in these conditions especially if you are unable to move for some reason. Other kit should include a headtorch, whistle, survival bag, mobile phone plus a couple of reliable and weatherproof means of navigation. Temperature: plus 2.4 C, Maximum wind speed 42.5 mph, Wind chill: minus 6.6 C, Average wind speed: 33.3 mph

Issued at: 01:36 on Wed 18 Dec 2024

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